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(56) Documents Cited

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US 5325529 A

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UK CL (Edition O) G4A AFL

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Online: WPI

(54) Software installation in data processing network

(57) A client is arranged so that at power up it makes a request to a server for first boot code which allows the client to boot from its own mass storage. Since the OS is not sent from the server over the network, traffic flow is eased whilst strict control of client software type is maintained.

The configuration of a client may be checked prior to software, particularly OS, installation by a server. The server, detecting a new client on the network, downloads scan code onto the client. The client then runs the scan code and returns hardware configuration data to the server.

If the OS of the client is to be modified then the server sends different, second boot code to the client which instructs the client to boot (a new OS) directly from the server. The OS from the server is then installed on the client mass storage device, and subsequent IPLs take place using the first boot code.

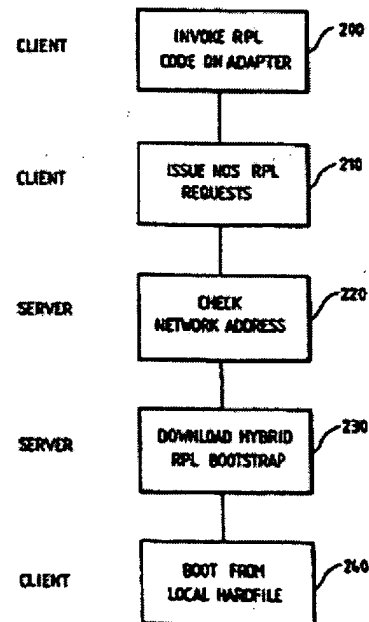


FIG. 3

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

This print takes account of replacement documents submitted after the date of filing to enable the application to comply with the formal requirements of the Patents Rules 1985